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NEWFANGLES

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(With apologies to and © Walt Disney Prods.)

THOMPSON NEWS (or, Why Hasn't NF Been Coming Out Nearer the First of the Month, Huh?): Don has been, in rapid succession, made assistant Lake County editor of the Cleveland Press, Bureau chief and primary writer for the Lake County Bureau. All at once. Lately, he has been training new reporters, planning a move into a new office, and piling up a backlog of news features prior to going on vacation. That took care of our time. Our dog, Fred, awoke partially paralyzed one day and it took $46 to set him to rights again; more than that went to repair our cat, Mochree, and we aren't sure he is in good health yet; and the engine in our VW burned out, costing $550 in repairs and rental of a car while it was being repaired. That took care of our money. Could you have published a fanzine during all that? We invite your attention to our for sale list; we need $$$.

We still plan to attend the World Science Fiction Convention in St. Louis Labor Day Weekend and hope to see old and new friends there. Look for us.

PLAGIARISTS BEWARE: A number of people have inquired about the legitimacy of a "club" which is reprinting EC's. We checked with Jerry De Fuccio and he warns against this practice. Bill Gaines very carefully copyrighted everything and guards those copyrights like a tiger her cubs. The producers of these pirated editions may find themselves in the licenseplate-making business if they don't cease and desist. The only authorized EC reprints are the Ballantine Books, going out of print, and the forthcoming Nostalgia Press volume. Anything else is stolen and we advise against dealing with thieves.

THE STEVE DITKO AWARD FOR FREESTYLE LAW ENFORCEMENT this month goes to Chester Gould, whose Dick Tracy during July featured Sam Catchem illegally spying on an innocent woman (not suspected of anything) and watching her undress in her bedroom over closed-circuit television; and had Sam, at Tracy's urging, persuading the director of the Social Security Administration to give him the name and address of a person whose Social Security number they had -- a serious federal offense. Incidentally, is anyone else as sick as we of seeing Dick Tracy represent all our policemen as vicious, brutal and sadistic bullies who enjoy beating suspects only slightly less than they enjoy killing them while making snotty remarks about "sacred rights" ? Why doesn't the Fraternal Order of Police put a stop to this defamation of honest, decent policemen?

BITS of NEWS

Hot Wheels (to be edited by Dick Giordano) is a TV show and a car kit from a toy company, as well as a comic book from DC. The last-named, we understand, has rights to the name and can handle the comic any way they choose. ## Deadman will be in the second issue of From Beyond the Unknown--and will not be a cover feature. ## One Steranko cover for a Warren mag is in and being fitted into the schedule. ## We understand that Space Family Robinson is not doing too well and may not last many more issues. ## Dan Spiegel is presently working on the new Hardy Boys comic for Gold Key --based on the cartoon series to start this fall; he drew the original HB book for Dell in the Mickey Mouse Club days. ## Anderson will ink Kane on a new Adam Strange story in the works. ## Upcoming in the "mystery" type books from Marvel will be work by Jim Steranko, Archie Goodwin, Neal Adams, Ted White (possibly), Barry Smith, Tom Palmer, Gene Colan, Marvin Wolfman, and Len Wein. (Our source says, "A cast of thousands." So some of such work has already appeared; so sue us. ## Bill Everett, who has been back for some months (coloring) at Marvel, will be doing inking as well on a major strip. ## We hear that some old Timely characters will be appearing in an upcoming Avengers; the story will take place about 1941, and the old characters will be shouting, "Okay, Axis, Here We Come!" (That was the title of Don's article in the All In Color For A Dime series--the article being on said ancient Timely characters.) ## John Ryan passes on word that Stan Pitt ghosted Secret Agent Corrigan for Al Williamson for the eleven weeks beginning Jun 16. (During his "vacation," Al did an 11-page story for DC titled "The Beautiful Beast" and ghosted another comic strip, as well.) ## And The Australian (John calls it "our national paper") ran reprints of Calkins' Buck Rogers Jul 7-Jul 19 to tie in with the Apollo 11 Mission. It is bringing out a BR anthology for $1.75 with about 128 pages. Stories will be copied from the comic books in the collection of Melbourne collector, Ian K. Baker--who wrote the introduction and notes about the various artists in the book.

George Klein, an inker at Marvel, died in May. We're sorry that we don't know the date. He had been married only about four months. His work appears in the October Thor--and there probably remains more to be printed.

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Editor & Publisher ($8 per year from Editor & Publisher, 850 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022) ran its yearly Syndicate Directory in its July 26 issue (25¢--may cost more if ordered singly by mail). We note that Gully Foyle (by Stan Pitt) is still listed as available from Ledger Syndicate--despite its not being available. Still going, according to the listing, are: Batman, Lone Ranger, Captain Kate, Flash Gordon, Johnny Hazard, Mister Breger, Nero Wolfe, Smilin' Jack, Superman, and Tarzan. (In case you wondered about any of them.) Not listed are King Aroo, The Willits, or Modesty Blaise. Also unlisted was Dick Cavalli's Winthrop--accidentally omitted by NEA. ## E&P lists some upcoming newspaper cartoon items: (1) Paul Sharpe is doing an uninspiring panel cartoon, Elijah--"a hillbilly-type Richard M. Nixon." He's sending samples to weekly newspapers, who may use four of them free. Sharpe's modest comment on the panel: "Look what Elijah did in Biblical times. We think our Elijah will do the same thing for weeklies." (2) Mary Gauerke's six-a-week panel The Alumnae will be distributed by The Register and Tribune Syndicate. The theme revolves around four women with contrasting personalities and is aimed at women readers. (3) King Features Syndicate will be starting syndication in mid-September of Edward Sorel's Sorel's News Service; the caricaturist whose work has previously appeared in many magazines will be providing the panel once a week. It will consist of a line caricature with a text "news report" on some celebrity--and it will probably be pretty hard-hitting. ## Page 10 of E&P for Aug 9 contains a reprint of an item in the NY Times of Jul 17, 1969. Headed "A Correction," it apologized for a Times editorial page comment on Jan 13, 1920. The Times had sneered at "the notion that a rocket could function in a vacuum" and at Robert H. Goddard for believing that it could--seeming "to lack the knowledge ladled out daily in high schools." The NYT admits, "Further investigation and experimentation have confirmed the findings of Isaac Newton ...and it is now definitely established that a rocket can function in a vacuum as well as in an atmosphere. The Times regrets the error." The ad was taken by the Times.

July 14 some special service fees charged by the Post Office went up. Special Delivery for First Class mail went from 30¢ to 45¢. Return receipts for certified mail have gone from 10¢ to 15¢. Base fee for registered mail went from 75¢ to 80¢. Call your local Post Office branch for other charming details.

SO WHO IS MOCKINGBIRD? Well, frankly, even Dick Giordano (editor of The Secret Six) doesn't know who the 6's leader was. Seems the idea was to keep people guessing as long as possible and then unveil him/her. Meanwhile, no decision was made on who it would be--so no inadvertent clues would be given. (Giordano leaned toward Crimson Dawn because she was so unlikely.) But some assumptions can be made: Carlo (in #2, p. 6) and King (#3, p. 19) had thoughts that eliminated them. Lili (#5, p. 4) wondered why Crimson said Johnny Bright destroyed her, something Mockingbird knew. However, Doc was a chemist who could analyze his lifesaving capsules and didn't; had a bottle full of pills (#2 pp. 2 and 19) though he was only supposed to have one at a time; suggested in the first place that one of the group must be Mockingbird--without any evidence to support such a claim. The strongest case can be made for Doc's being Mockingbird. Anyway, with the comic longsince cancelled, who, in the words of King Nevvawuz, caresssss ~~~

MARVEL NEWS

Bill Dubay has been doing Millie the Model for about 8 months and about three of his issues have appeared by now. ## More-or-Less Plagiarism Dept.: The most recent comic-book creature to be inspired by Theodore Sturgeon's "It" appeared in Hulk #121. We understand that Trimpe and Thomas plotted it before either read the story--not wanting to prejudice their telling of the tale. And Bullseye's costume in the latest issue of SHIELD was, we are told, drawn without Trimpe's ever having seen Target Comics' The Target. (By the way, does anyone care whether Fury was killed or not? Just curious; consider this a poll.) Try comparing "The Time Machine and the Shmoe!" (Weird Fantasy #17, Jan-Feb 51) with "Always Leave 'Em Laughing!" in Chamber of Darkness #1 (Oct 69). Now there's a time machine for you... We are told that Gary Friedrich wrote his version from a 1959-60 plot synopsis of Lee's--"which even he doesn't remember swiping from Kurtzman." Um. In any case, HK did it better... ## That picture of Johnny Craig in Fantastic Four Special #7 seems to be the one taken in 1952 for a biography of JC which ran in one of the EC mags. ## Such DC writers as Steve Skeates are doing writing for Marvel; the one Marvel seems to be giving the most work to is Denny O'Neil. ## Gary Friedrich has married again and moved to California; Archie Goodwin and Bill Everett are finishing up a couple of GF's Fury stories. # The first of Marvel's Lovecraft adaptations will be HPL's "Terrible Old Man"--script by Roy Thomas, art by Barry Smith. ## And Roy will, hopefully, be scripting Gil Kane's first sword&sorcery "mystery" story for Marvel. ## Marvel's first month of sales at 15¢ were better than the months preceeding it; odd, but if the trend continues, the chances are slight that any more hero books will be discontinued by Marvel.

MISCELLANY Nikki Ballard mentions that a while back a segment from a 1940's Superman radio show was performed on the Tonight show; more recently, some footage from a Flash Gordon serial was shown. And Carson said he was thinking about doing some more of each. ## All future Fantasy Collectors of Chicago meetings will be held at 4717 North Harding Avenue, Chicago, Illinois (near Lawrence and Pulaski Avenues) from 1-7 p.m. (Use ground level entrance at building's rear.) Meetings are held every second Sunday of every month; full length adventure movie will be shown at each meeting, starting at 3 p.m. ## Newsweek's August 4 "Where Are They Now?" feature discussed Buck Rogers and Flash Gordon. ## There is a possibility that some Vaughn Bodé collaborations will appear as covers on Warren mags--these consist of Bodé cover sketches which Vaughn will then commission other artists (maybe Jeff Jones, Basil Gogos, and/or Larry Todd) to execute. Vaughn is hoping to extend the project into the area of paperback covers and the like. # Sunday afternoon of the New York con, a piece of original Bodé art was stolen from the display room--plate #8 of a 10-plate series called "U-22"... If anyone in our readership knows the thief, he might point out to him that only a few people in fandom own Bodé originals and few of these are about to sell them. If the thief tries, he just may find himself being confronted by the law, instead. (We're pretty sure that the anonymous return of the art to Bob Schoenfeld, 9516 Minerva, St. Louis, Missouri 63114 would result in its acceptance with no questions asked.) ## Bob was, by the way, recently hit by a flood which hit his collection hard. "You can't really imagine the feeling of lifting your Flash Gordon Nostalgia Press book out of the water and watching the interior binding fall out of the covers." ## Bob mentions that part of Hanerfeld's problems with OTDB was connected with the difficulty of hunt-and-peck typing consuming all spare time. (All fans should try to learn touch typing in school; it is an incredible boon in fanning.) ## Basil Wolverton is currently doing a regular feature for a magazine called The Plain Truth--a religious publication sent out free to anyone requesting it. The feature is called "The Story of Man--for Children Five to One Hundred Five." We understand that the publication is a fundamentalist-type thing and, according to Schoenfeld, they "manage to prove evolution an impossibility with monthly regularity." If you want to be put on their mailing list, write to Box 111, Pasadena, California 91109. (They have a companion magazine, The World Tomorrow, in which Wolverton has done some anti-smoking cartoons.) # Sam Grainger and Roy Thomas did (in 1965) a Warrior of Llarn 12-page story--which got Sam his first pro-comics job at Charlton. It will appear before much longer in Star-Studded Comics (a fanzine)...

The Mad crew is spending its annual vacation (at Bill Gaines' expense) in Africa from Aug. 29 to Sept. 7, then going to Athens, Greece, for another three days. ## Ron Cobb is featured in "On the Scene" in the Sept. Playboy. ## The Sept. Teen is interspersed with Peanuts characters, which fail to rescue the mag from blandness. ## American Greeting has a line of giant $1 cards featuring Warner Bros. cartoon characters -- Porky Pig, Bugs Bunny, Yosemite Sam, pretty much the whole bunch. Sample: Bugs says "What's Up, Doc? You, I hope. Get well soon." Boffo. ## The Dragnet episode with the nut that thinks he's a superhero was rerun Aug. 7; we don't believe it ever happened. ## Just before DC quit offering subs, Thomas Hegeman sent $1.75 for 12 issues of Justice League; so far he's got 15 issues of JLA and a copy of Green Lantern. "Is it any wonder that they stopped giving subscriptions?" ## Classics Illustrated lives -- the first new title in years is now on the stands: Negro Americans: The Early Years #169. Not too bad, but written very late for the very young. ## A new magazine, Penthouse, has two pages of "Shazam" cartoons in the Sept. issue. Cartoonist Ziraldo once appeared in Mad.

We get conflicting statements about Nightmaster, but it seems unlikely he'll get his own book. ## MGM didn't like Angelo Torres artwork on Where Vultures Fare in Mad. They wanted Drucker, but he's making too much from ad work to do more than one piece per issue. Mad is adding John Cullen Murphy ("Big Ben Bolt") and caricaturist John A. Johns to their art staff. ## The Russians refused a visa to editorial cartoonist Herbert Block (Herblock). ## Frosty O's and Lucky Charms (cereals) have dolls of Underdog, Rocky, Bullwinkle and their ad characters in them. ## My World and Welcome to It (NBC) is an animated-and-live-action comedy series about a cartoonist who lives in a fantasy world of James Thurber cartoons. ## Frank Frazetta will not work for fanzines because if he works for one, he would have to work for all. Since he gets $500 for his cover paintings, he can ill afford the time for free work. ## An art student at University of Illinois made the tower clock into a 12-foot-in-diameter Mickey Mouse watch. ## The citizens of Lake Geneva, Wis., are erecting a new statue of comic strip character Andy Gump, as a tribute to cartoonist Sidney Smith, to replace the old one which was vandalized. ## American Airlines gives AstroComics, featuring Harvey little-kid comics, to kids on their flights. ## Wanna see the JLA beat the Avengers? Wanna see the Avengers beat the JLA? Buy the issues of JLA and Avengers on sale in September.

Bowling Green University in Ohio is collecting comic books and other pop culture items as study materials for the Center for the Study of Popular Culture. ## Despite a news item in Locus to the effect that All in Color for a Dime won't be published until Dec., the color plates are done, the galleys are corrected and the book is due in Oct., far as we know -- and I talked to the publisher just a couple of weeks ago ("I" being Don). ## What Kurtzman was doing during the NY Comic con was supervising a photo satire with Tony Randall and a lot of nekkid women for Playboy. ## Kurtzman is still having some trouble with his comic book history. ## Could anyone supply us with a 1969 Comic Art Con booklet? ## There is a shallow article on the problems of drawing Negro characters in Editor & Publisher 16 Aug featuring Alden McWilliams, who draws Dateline: Danger. (Incidentally, the John Saunders who writes that strip is the son of Allen Saunders, author of Mary Worth, Steve Roper and Mike Nomad and Kerry Drake.) ## Jean Linard is alive, relatively well and living and working in Vesoul. ## 65¢ will bring you Bijou #2 from Print Mint, 830 Folger, Berkeley, Calif. Funny and not as dirty as most underground Comix. ## Alter-Ego is to appear; when will Roy Thomas give us those ad sheets he keeps promising? ## Gary Friedrich has married again (third time lucky?) and moved to California, apparently leaving Marvel. Archie Goodwin and Bill Everett are finishing up a couple of his Fury stories. ## Sales went up when the price jumped to 15¢ --maybe due to better distribution? ## JLA and Green Lantern will need a miracle to survive. ## Gil Kane is going to do some mysteries (sword&sorcery, probably) for Marvel. ## If we repeat news this issue, it is because we are both typing pages of this issue; usually, Don writes the whole issue, but read page one again to learn why Maggie had to write half this one -- and try to figure out which half. ## Jim Harmon's next book is The Great Radio Comedians, followed by The Movie Serials (in collaboration with Don Glut). Both are sold to Doubleday. A book on soap opera will follow. ## Jack Kirby painted machinery all over one wall of his California house. ## Jack Davis and Roger (Animal Crackers) Bollen have cartoons in the Bell Telephone house organ, Voice (Aug-Sept issue.)

Your subscription expires with issue # 27 .

Among those writing for Marvel's mystery mags are Len Wein, Gerry Conway and Marvin Wolfman. Gerry has a story called "The Warlock Tree" illustrated by Barry Smith; Gerry (who does the majority of House of Secrets and all the "Abel" material for DC) sold DC a sword&sorcery story which was drawn by Gil Kane and inked by Neal Adams. Marvin's "One Little Indian" for Marvel was drawn by Gene Colan. And Marvin sold that story to Web of Horror that we mentioned last month; it is being drawn by Berni Wrightson; title is "Air Breather." # The cat introduced into the Sunday Pogo strip is modeled after a cat belonging to the executive manager of the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, where Walt Kelly stayed while preparing the Pogo TV special. # DC's Hot Wheels written by Joe Gill, drawn by Al Toth, edited by Dick Giordano, based on a tv cartoon show.

GUEST EDITORIAL (Bill Spicer) The paperback edition of The Disney Version has one of those more-intellectual-than-thou cover blurbs, this one by Pauline Kael: "The story of how Disney built an empire on corrupt popular art has more surprises than might have been anticipated...a revealing part of American cultural history. Schickel makes it an important story." a) More jass on "corrupt" popular art, a favorite Kael target, which I don't think entirely applies to Disney... b) Schickel "makes" it an important story, as though it wasn't one already until Schickel sanctified it by writing his book. Or am I being just another Disney reactionary?

An interview with Murphy Anderson (by Marv Wolfman) is upcoming in "Wonderful World of (DC) Comics" and Marv also is doing a series of articles for Brave & Bold, recounting all the characters who have appeared in the book. The "Wonderful World" feature now is being done by Gerry Conway. The Brave & Bold Batman/Wonder Woman teamup will be drawn by Mike Sekowsky, who also drew Phantom Stranger #5. Deadman is due to team up with Aquaman. Wolfman is doing a one-page continued series for DC's love comics. Denny O'Neil wrote a Detective Batman story which Neal Adams drew.

Fred Patten, central mailer of CAPA-alpha, has changed jobs and moved; new address is 11863 W. Jefferson Blvd., apt. 1, Culver City, Calif. 90230. Sept. K-a may be late.

How to Survive Comics Fandom, 20¢ from Maggie Thompson, is still available. So is our checklist of Dell Special Number Titles (Black&White, Color Comics, 4-Color Comics, &c, plus some Classics Illustrated and other series) still available for $1; add 10¢ if you want the corrections we plan to publish someday. # Elderly southern ladies of all ages and sexes have banned Tarzan from library shelves in Alabama because it ain't fitten for a white man to be roaming around Africa. # Patrick Fetta kindly sent us a copy of the first issue of an underground paper called Extra!; poor, very drab. # Marvin Slaughter tells us he started collecting comics when he was a medical illustrator in the Navy; the instructor made him use the inking techniques used in EC books. # The Reed&Sue Richards kid soon will be named. # Vampirella's costume was designed by underground cartoonist Trina. # Wonder if Maggie mentioned that I typoed the last issue of Captain Marvel last issue? Next (out in Sept.) issue is the last. # Mike Royer drew the female faces in "Spellbound" in Creepy 29. Royer no longer is Russ Manning' assistant on the Tarzan strip; too busy with work on his own. Wayne Boring (who used to draw Superman) draws the Davy Jones strip. # Dell is stirring again, reissuing old comics with new numbers: Melvin the Monster #1 is out as #9; Get Smart #1 is #8; Flying Saucers #1 is now #8 and so on. # Michael Butler (producer of Hair) owns the film rights to Conan, whom he calls "a gypsy James Bond."

We highly recommend (again) Captain George's Comic World (George Henderson, 594 Markham St., Toronto, Ontario, Canada) which costs $3 for 10 issues -- copies are not sold singly. He has published 16 issues so far, all are still available. Taken as a whole, they will be a history of comic art. The latest published reprint a number of Buck Rogers Sunday strips and some sexy men's mags illos by Frank Frazetta. Throughout, Comic World (which is printed) includes generous quantities of work by Hal Foster, Alex Raymond, Winsor McCay and many others. If you really dig comic art and not just comic book superheroes, you will love CGCW. # One of the Captain's coterie of incredibly talented people is Jim MacKay, animator nominated for an Oscar last year. #Out of room.